

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 PEKING 01788 160406Z

15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 NIC-01 SAJ-01 IO-04 SAM-01 DRC-01 /060 W

----- 003805

R 160330Z OCT 74

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2554

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PEKING 1788

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, MILI, CH

SUBJECT: MILITARY ACTIVITY IN PEKING

1. BEGINNING WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 12-13, THERE HAS BEEN UNUSUAL MILITARY ACTIVITY IN PEKING. USLO OFFICER OCTOBER 12 OBSERVED ABOUT TWO COMPANIES OF PLA ON GROUNDS OF GREAT HALL OF PEOPLE CONDUCTING SIMULATED FIRING PRACTICE. ONE COMPANY WAS IN A PRONE POSITION APPARENTLY ENGAGED IN AIMING DRILLS, WHILE THE SECOND WAS RESTING. BOTH GROUPS CARRIED WEAPONS WITH FIXED BAYONETS. THERE WERE NO CURIOUS CROWDS OF ONLOOKERS AND THE ENTIRE DEMONSTRATION WAS APPARENTLY IGNORED BY THE POPULACE.

2. CANADIAN MILATT STRUTHERS HAS INFORMED US THAT THERE HAS BEEN INCREASED TRAFFIC IN AND OUT OF A BARRACKS AREA IN THE SAN LI TUN DISTRICT NEAR HIS EMBASSY. EACH DAY SEVERAL BUSLOADS OF TROOPS HAVE BEEN OBSERVED, SOMETHING STRUTHERS CONSIDERS UNUSUAL. HE ALSO SAID THAT AIR TRAFFIC IN AND OUT OF HSI CHIAO, THE MILITARY AIRFIELD WEST OF PEKING HAD INCREASED.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 PEKING 01788 160406Z

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SMALL UNITS OF PLA HAVE BEEN SEEN

PRACTICING IN THE TWO PARKS ON EITHER SIDE OF TIEN AN MEN SQUARE,THIS

IS THE FIRST TIME SINCE USLO OPENED THAT WE HAVE OBSERVED OR
HEARD OF THE PLA CONDUCTING MILITARY ACTIVITIES IN THE SQUARE
AREA ITSELF. WE HAVE ALSO NOTED WHAT SEEMED TO BE A
PERCEPTIBLE INCREASE IN THE ALWAYS LARGE NUMBER OF PLA VISIBLE
IN PEKING OVER THE PAST MONTH OR SO. WE DO NOT WANT TO JUMP
TO ANY CONCLUSIONS AT THIS POINT, BUT WE WILL WATCH THIS
CLOSELY AND REPORT ANY ADDITIONAL SIGHTINGS WHEN THEY OCCUR.
HOLDRIDGE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, MILITARY EXERCISES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974PEKING01788
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740293-0772
From: PEKING
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741042/aaaabjup.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUL 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MILITARY ACTIVITY IN PEKING
TAGS: PINT, MILI, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005